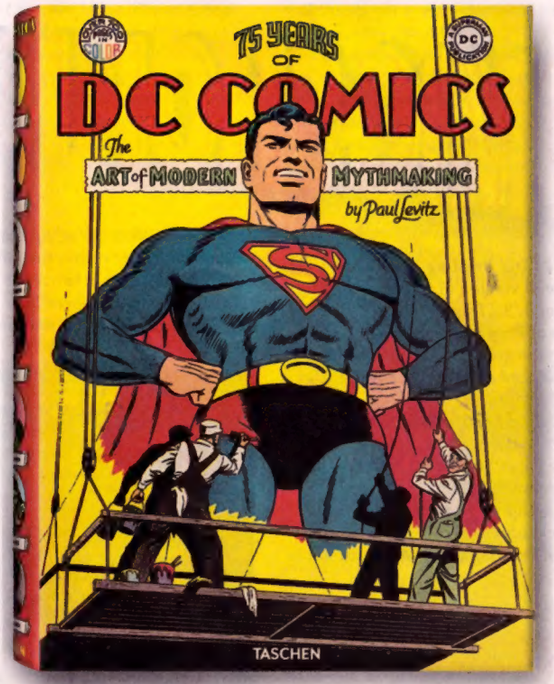
COMIC SHOP NEWS™

75 Years of DC Comics

The Spirit of 75



Seventy-five years ago, *Major Malcolm Wheeler-Nicholson* made publishing history—and paved the way for the comics that we enjoy every week (and for publications like ***Comic Shop News***, which cover those comics!). In a young field populated by comic strip reprints, Wheeler-Nicholson had the foresight to produce the first all-original comic, ***New Fun #1***... and from there, comics history was forever changed.

Now, three quarters of a century later and more than forty thousand comics later, Taschen Books and *Paul Levitz* are going to spotlight just what Wheeler-Nicholson unleashed in ***75 Years of DC Comics***, a massive illustrated history of the field's first and foremost original comics publisher.

75 Years of DC Comics, a massive 600+ page hardcover, is jam packed with more than 2000 images spanning DC's seven and a half decades—images that include covers, interior art, original illustrations, photographs, film stills, rarely seen collectibles, and much more.

"The book is incredibly visually rich," Levitz told ***CSN***. "No matter how much you know about comics, there will be photos or reproductions of old material that you haven't seen. The narrative is more of a basic story (I only have 33,000 words, or about ¾ of a word per issue DC published), but hopefully there's be anecdotes or observations that will surprise."

If there's anyone who should know a great deal about DC's history, it's Levitz, whose career at DC spans almost half of those seventy-five years. "I started in fanzines, doing ***The Comic Reader***, the first ***TV Guide*** equivalent for the field," Levitz said. "That got me to know the talent, so I moved on to being an assistant editor, writer, editor (I realized in doing this book that I was actually DC's youngest ever), then moved to the business side as manager of business affairs, VP-operations, executive VP, executive VP & publisher, and finally as president & publisher. Heck of a four decades!"

Since his career with DC dates back to 1972, Levitz is uniquely qualified to chronicle the company's history; not only was he present for much of it, but he also has met and/or worked with almost all of the major figures in DC history. "There are observations based on the amazing folks I've known along the way," Levitz said.

The Flash
— FASTEST MAN ALIVE !
BY GARDNER FOX AND E·E·HIBBARD
WHEEEEE-WHEEEEE-EEE-EEEEEE-WHEEEEE-EEEEEEEE-EEEEE
POLICE
EEEE-WHEEEE-EEEEE-EEE
POLICE
" CHAPTER FOUR "
OVER THE ENTIRE NATION A NETWORK OF RADIO POLICE STATIONS OPERATE CONSTANTLY IN AN EFFORT TO LOCATE THE THREAT! POLICE CARS SHRILL THEIR SCREAMING SIRENS AS THEY DART FROM UNDER-WORLD HIDEOUTS TO WELL-KNOWN GAMBLING CLUBS! GUNMEN, ROUTED FROM COVER, FIGHT IT OUT IN THE GREATEST MAN-HUNT IN ALL POLICE HISTORY!
ALL TO NO AVAIL! THE THREAT IS STILL AT LARGE.....
D-1

How did Levitz become involved with ***75 Years of DC Comics?*** "The project started about two years ago. I came on board as the writer last fall," he said.

The book is structured as a chronological history, but it offers much more than a timeline narrative. "It's deeply layered," Levitz said. "The narrative is a series of chronological chapters (Stone, Golden, Silver Ages, etc.), accompanied by illustrations, timelines, long biographical albums, and short biographical pieces with accompanying caricatures. I think the final tally is well over 2000 illustrations—stuff as obscure as photos in a color separation plant or progressive proofs of an ***All-American Western*** cover, to beautifully rephotographed classic pieces like Superman breaking the chains by *Neal Adams*."

And not only is the book thick, but each page is impressively oversized. "It's monstrously large--an occasional specialty of Taschen--and beautifully photographed and printed," Levitz said. "The result is, even if you're looking at a partial page illo, like an old *Walt Kelly* piece for an early DC comic, you can see linework in joyous detail. And a full page of ***Dark Knight Returns*** shows every nuance that the color altered when laid over the reduced version.

"The book includes repro of pages from ***New Fun*** and other early DCs; sketches, photos (*Arnold Drake* at the separators during ***Doom Patrol***, for example), panels, and house ads; stills from films and TV shows; photos from "Superman Day" at the '39-40 World's Fair; the cover of DC's annual report when it was a public company; and on and on... Eat your Wheaties though—it's a tough lift!"

Publications like ***The Jack Kirby Collector, Alter Ego, Back Issue, Comic Book Artist***, etc., have raised the bar for comics history, as have insightful biographies of such comics pioneers as *Steve Ditko, Jack Kirby*, and *Otto Binder*. Readers who have come to expect hitherto-unrevealed details, rarely seen art, and unused material will be quite pleased with the contents of this massive history. "No matter how knowledgeable you are, there will be things in here that you've never seen," Levitz said.

In his many years at DC, Levitz must have been privy to many of the company's secrets; while Levitz acknowledges that some of those secrets must remain private, "there will be a few revealed as well—like the lowest sell-through title DC ever published."

Does Levitz focus on his own tenure at DC—and if so, was that a challenge for Levitz the historian? "Not so much, because it's hard for me to talk about my work as a historian—but there's a bit of ***Legion of Super-Heroes***, certainly," Levitz said. "I'll save the rest for an autobiography some day."

Any chance we might see that autobiography on the schedule in the near future? "No autobiography soon," Levitz said. "I want to do a bit more before I start looking backward!"

While Levitz has been on hand for almost four decades of DC history, is there any single period that he wishes he could have witnessed in person? "I got to see so much, I hate to be greedy," Levitz said. "It would have been fun to hang out with *Shelly Mayer* at All-American, though... and I never got to meet *Whit Ellsworth*, of all DC's great editors.

Paul Levitz is not tiny, the book is really that big.

How has DC changed over the years, as Levitz sees it? "Read the book!" he replied with that trademark Levitz smile.

And does he have any theories on where DC—and comics as both an art form and a commercial medium—are going in the next twenty-five years? "That's a whole other book, Cliff," Levitz said.

75 Years of DC Comics, a 720 page $200 hardcover measuring a whopping 11.4" x 15.6", is slated for October release.

by Cliff Biggers

Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

Denis Kitchen's
CHIPBOARD SKETCHBOOK

CSNsider

•Boom Studios will offer *Denis Kitchen's* art volume ***Denis Kitchen's Chipboard Sketchbook*** in October. "These chipboard drawings are completely spontaneous, never conceived ahead of time and never penciled," Kitchen said. "I have no idea what I'm going to do when the Sharpie point hits board. That makes for an exhilarating creative danger... This stream-of-consciousness approach concocts images that often genuinely surprise even me as the lines unfold." The book will be published under the Boom!Town imprint.

•Pinocchio's war with bloodsuckers continues in October with the release of ***Pinocchio: the Great Puppet Theater,*** a continuation of *Van Jensen & Dustin Higgins'* ***Pinocchio Vampire Slayer*** saga. The 176-page graphic novel follows Pinocchio's quest to find and kill the head vampire, while taking out as many of his minions as he can along the way.

•***Batman #703,*** originally solicited as featuring interiors by *Peter Milligan & Tony Daniel,* will now be produced by *Fabian Nicieza & Cliff Richards.*

•***Doc Savage #6*** will be co-written by *Brian Azzarello & Ivan Brandon;* Brandon was initially listed as the sole writer for this issue.

•***Ultimate Comics Thor #1*** will feature a previously unsolicited variant cover by *J. Scott Campbell.* Quantities will be strictly limited, so talk with folks at your friendly neighborhood comic shop regarding price and availability.

•***Uncanny X-Force #1*** will have a previously unannounced variant cover by *J. Scott Campbell.* Quantities will be strictly limited, so talk with folks at your friendly neighborhood comic shop regarding price and availability.

Back to Press

•***Batman #700 2nd Printing*** (JUL108015), featuring a recolored version of the cover by *David Finch,* in stores 9/9.

•***Bird of Prey #3 2nd Printing*** (JUL108035), featuring a recolored version of the cover by *Cliff Chiang,* in stores 9/9. (This means that all three issues of ***Birds of Prey*** have gone back to press, with the first issue going into a third printing!)

•***Daredevil #509 2nd Printing*** (JUL108027), in stores 9/15.

•***Shadowland: Blood on the Streets #1 2nd Printing*** (JUL108023), in stores 9/15.

•***Steve Rogers: Super Soldier #2 2nd Printing*** (JUL108031), in stores 9/15.

•***Thanos Imperative #3 2nd Printing*** (JUL108030), in stores 9/15.

•***X-Men #2 2nd Printing*** (JUL108032), in stores 9/15.

COMIC SHOP NEWSARAMA

Produced by *Comic Shop News* in cooperation with *newsarama.com*

Coming Comics—DC in November

Lex Luthor has had an incredibly difficult time of it lately, what with fighting master assassin Deathstroke, avoiding being eaten by Gorilla Grodd, and even meeting Death herself! Now he's finally back at his office in Metropolis, so he can relax a little bit.... or at least, he could if Vandal Savage wasn't in the picture. See what happens next in ***Action Comics #895*** by *Paul Cornell & Pete Woods.*

For the first time, a Legionnaire dies in ***Adventure Comics #520.*** Learn how the consequences surrounding this brutal moment still affect the Legion today!

Superman and Batman team up in ***The All-New Batman: The Brave and the Bold #1*** by *Sholly Fisch & Rick Burchett.* When Kandor is threatened by a plague of thefts that hint at a larger threat waiting in the wings, Superman and Batman shrink down to super-small size to unravel the super-big mystery.

Azrael returns to Gotham City in ***Azrael #14*** by *David Hine & Cliff Richards.* Now he must decide whether to continue his mission alone or accept the mysterious invitation to join the ranks of Batman, Inc.!

Dustin Nguyen debuts as series artist beginning with ***Batgirl #15,*** which also introduces the mysterious "Order of the Scythe." Who are they, and why have they set their sights on Batgirl?

Bruce Wayne may be back, but Dick Grayson remains as Gotham's protector in ***Batman #704,*** written and illustrated by *Tony Daniel.* When an aging but wealthy technology developer comes to Gotham with his beautiful daughter, it turns out he's in search of a joint project with WayneTech. DNA tracking is the name of his game, and there are others interested in his proposal...

Peter Tomasi, Patrick Gleason, & Mark Irwin debut as the regular creative team beginning with ***Batman & Robin #17.*** In their first story arc, "Dark Knight, White Knight," Dick Grayson and Damian Wayne come face-to-face with what could possibly be the strangest Bat Villain yet. Who is the White Knight, and why is he hell-bent on making Gotham City into Heaven on Earth?

Howard Chaykin pays an all-too-rare visit to the Bat-verse with the oneshot ***Batman/Catwoman: Follow the Money.*** It begins when the Cavalier frames Catwoman for a run of burglaries... and then frames Bruce Wayne for pillaging the Wayne Enterprises pension fund! However impressive he may appear to be, The Cavalier will quickly learn that frame-ups like that cut both ways, as both Batman and Catwoman begin tracking the Gotham City villain.

Batman: Son of the Demon artist *Jerry Bingham* illustrates his first Batman tale in more than two decades in ***Batman Confidential #50,*** written by *Marc Guggenheim.* The story flashes back to an adventure starring a younger, more maverick Batman as he faces a foe who had once tangled with the Justice League of America in the Orient. And as an added bonus, you'll also get a lost tale of the JLA featuring their first encounter with a villain from afar – the very same creature Batman tangles with in "Super-Powers."

David Finch is both writer and artist of the new ongoing series ***Batman: The Dark Knight.*** Delving into the more supernatural and esoteric areas of Gotham City, the kickoff six-part storyline explores the horrific murder of one of Bruce Wayne's childhood friends… and the terrible ramifications the brutal crime has on Batman's life!

__Bruce Wayne is back—and *Grant Morrison* is right there with him as ***Batman, Inc.*** launches. Illustrated by *Yanick Paquette,* ***Batman, Inc. #1*** stars not just Bruce Wayne as Batman, but also a huge number of guest-stars! Don't miss out on this all-new start to a stunning direction for Batman!

Fabian Nicieza launches a new Ragman co-feature in ***Batman: Streets of Gotham #17.***

Learn a little bit more about Kate Kane and her masked identity in ***Batwoman #0*** by *J.H. Williams III, W. Haden Blackman, Amy Reeder, & Richard Friend.* The books picks up roughly where the ***Batwoman: Elegy*** left off, and this issue acts as a primer for the upcoming new series.

What connection does Maxwell Lord have with World War II? You'd be surprised—but you'll find out in ***Booster Gold #38*** by *Keith Giffen, J.M. DeMatteis, Chris Batista, & Rich Perrotta.*

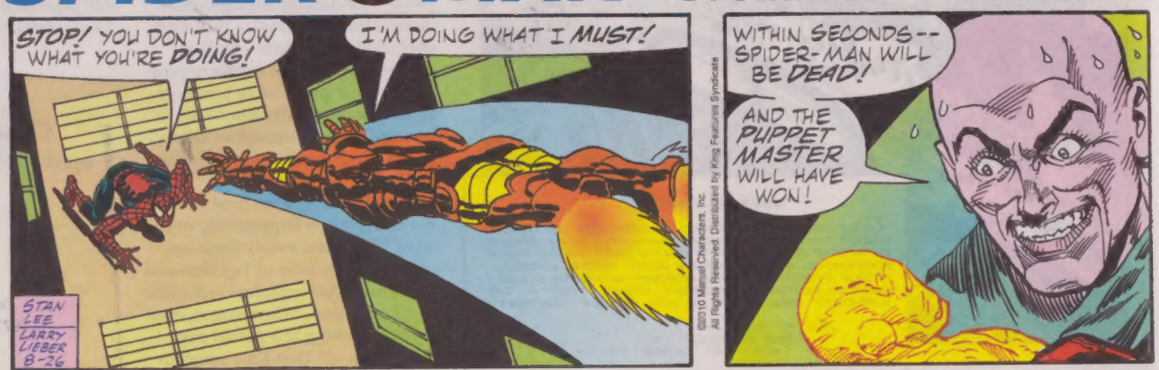
The search for a new White Lantern continues in ***Brightest Day #s 13 & 14.*** And Martian Manhunter returns to Mars as we discover the origin of the creature mysteriously stalking him. Plus, the evil within Firestorm now haunts Professor Stein! And Hawkman: betrayed!

The unthinkable happens at the heart of the DC Universe when Superman dies defending us all from Doomsday! Witness the DCU's response to the loss in ***DC Universe: Legacies #7*** by *Len Wein, Dan Jurgens, & Jerry Ordway.* Meanwhile, *Brian Bolland* takes us into the Time Pool with The Atom, leaving him face-to-face with the Demon in Camelot!

A series of brutal murders pushes Batman's

SPIDER-MAN

BY STAN LEE & LARRY LIEBER


STOP! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING!
I'M DOING WHAT I MUST!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 8-26
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WITHIN SECONDS-- SPIDER-MAN WILL BE DEAD!
AND THE PUPPET MASTER WILL HAVE WON!

COMIC SHOP NEWS
Published weekly since 1987 by Comic Shop News, Inc.
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detective skills to the limit and forces him to confront one of Gotham City's oldest evils in ***Detective Comics #871*** by the new creative team of *Scott Snyder & Jock*. This issue also features the premiere of a new Commissioner Gordon co-feature written by Snyder and illustrated by *Francesco Francavilla*.

Geoff Johns & Scott Kolins present a ***Flashpoint*** prelude tale in ***Flash #8*** as they retell the origin of Barry Allen's greatest foe, Professor Zoom.

In *J.T. Krul & Diogenes Neves'* ***Green Arrow #6***, Green Arrow infiltrates Queen Industries to confront the Queen head-on. What shocking revelations will she reveal – and why is she wearing his mother's ring? The answer may drive Ollie over the edge—again!

Geoff Johns, Doug Mahnke, & Christian Alamy reveal the truth about the Indigo Tribe members and their Entity, the Proselyte, in ***Green Lantern #60***.

Kyle Rayner attempts to recruit Sinestro in a mission to save his daughter Soranik Natu in ***Green Lantern Corps #54*** by *Tony Bedard, Tyler Kirkham, & Batt*. But the leader of the Yellow Lanterns is more concerned with exterminating the "alley rat" Emerald Warrior...

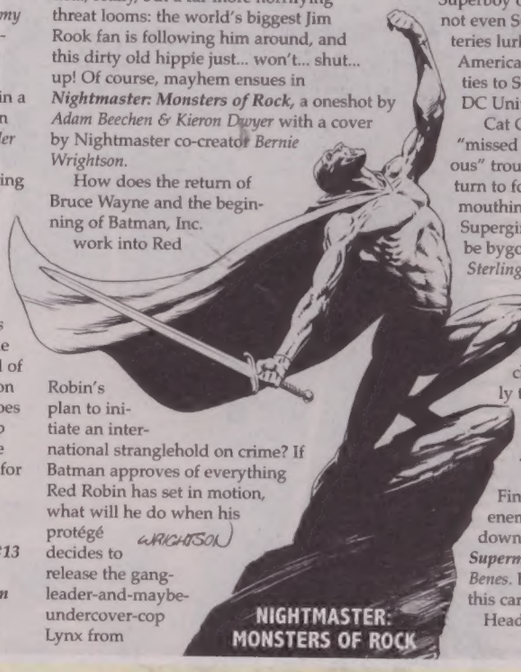
Green Lantern battles Green Lantern in ***Green Lantern: Emerald Warriors #4*** as a new villain storms the scene. But what are his plans and what association does he have with a tiny, mysterious hooded figure?

In ***Justice League of America #51*** by *James Robinson & Mark Bagley*, he battle between the JLA and the Crime Syndicate within the Hall of Justice explodes into the streets of Washington D.C. as a new villain prevents any other heroes from helping save the nation's capital. It's up to five members of the Justice League to save the city's people, with serious repercussions for one Leaguer, who may turn to the dark side.

What happens when Magog tries to kill Captain Atom in a fight to the finish? You'll find out in ***Justice League: Generation Lost #13*** as someone will die, creating repercussions that will affect the future timeline of ***Kingdom Come***. Then, in #14, th JLA is hunted by Checkmate after begin framed for murder—and things get even worse when the Creature Commandos attack!

The Shadowpact has been kidnapped by an evil wizard, and it's up to former rock-god Jim Rook, the Nightmaster, to save them. No big deal, really, but a far more horrifying threat looms: the world's biggest Jim Rook fan is following him around, and this dirty old hippie just... won't... shut... up! Of course, mayhem ensues in ***Nightmaster: Monsters of Rock***, a oneshot by *Adam Beechen & Kieron Dwyer* with a cover by Nightmaster co-creator *Bernie Wrightson*.

How does the return of Bruce Wayne and the beginning of Batman, Inc. work into Red Robin's plan to initiate an international stranglehold on crime? If Batman approves of everything Red Robin has set in motion, what will he do when his protégé decides to release the gang-leader-and-maybe-undercover-cop Lynx from prison? Find out in ***Red Robin #17*** by *Fabian Nicieza & Marcus To*.



The Boy of Steel is back in a brand-new ***Superboy*** ongoing series courtesy of *Jeff Lemire & Pier Gallo*. In the first issue, they take Superboy on a journey to a side of Smallville not even Superman knows about! What mysteries lurk beneath the surface of this all-American town – and what are their direct ties to Superboy? The start of the next great DC Universe epic begins right here!

Cat Grant is in trouble. And not just "missed her deadline and Perry White's furious" trouble. And the only hero who she can turn to for help is the one she's been badmouthing in the Daily Planet for months – Supergirl! Will the Girl of Steel let bygones be bygones? Find out in ***Supergirl #58*** by *Sterling Gates, Jamal Igle, & Jon Sibal*.

Superman walks into Des Moines, Iowa, in ***Superman #705*** by *J. Michael Straczynski, Eddy Barrows, & J.P. Mayer*. A chance encounter, however, suddenly thrusts Superman back in time. So somehow he's Superboy again, the world is on the brink of nuclear Armageddon, and it's all his fault!

It's open season on the World's Finest as it looks like all their worst enemies have joined forces to take down both Batman and Superman in ***Superman/Batman #78*** by *Joe Kelly & Ed Benes*. But who could possibly be behind this carefully coordinated attack?

Heads up, Teen Titans! There's a new

Continued on page 6

PREVIEWS

One Catalog. TONS of Cool Stuff.

From comic books to action figures, games to DVDs, there's something for everyone in the September issue of *PREVIEWS*!

COVER STORY

BATMAN: THE DARK KNIGHT #1 / BATMAN, INC. #1

DC Comics unleashes a double-dose of Batman with two all-new series: David Finch's ***Batman: The Dark Knight***, a new series featuring Bruce Wayne as Batman, and Grant Morrison and Yanick Paquette's ***Batman, Inc.***, which takes readers into the more supernatural and esoteric areas of Gotham City!

IMAGE COMICS TRIFECTA

Image serves up a trio of new, must-see projects on this month's back cover: the genre-twisting super-hero series ***Utopian***; the ***Battle Chasers Anthology HC***, collecting the entirety of Joe Maduereira's beloved fantasy series; and the 13th trade paperback volume in Robert Kirkman's ***The Walking Dead***, subtitled ***Too Far Gone***.

450+ pages of cool stuff that starts shipping in November!

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CHECK THESE OUT IN THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE:

Hellboy: Double Feature of Evil

Eisner Award–winning horror masters Mike Mignola and Richard Corben present this bloodcurdling double-feature comic with Hellboy entering two very different, but very deadly, houses!

Batman: The Dark Knight #1

David Finch takes full creative control on this brand-new monthly series, joined by the Scott Williams on inks! Delving into the more supernatural and esoteric areas of Gotham City, this new series is sure to be on everyone's must-read list!

Dungeons & Dragons #1

The genre-defining RPG gets an all-new ongoing series by writer John Rogers (*Blue Beetle*) and artist Andrea Di Vito (*Annihilation*), taking a band heroes on the trail to high adventure in a world fractured by encroaching darkness!

Utopian #1

From writers Mark Guggenheim and Tara Butter, and artists Ryan Bodenheim and Mark Englert, comes ***Utopian***, the story of what happens when the superheroes win. No crime, no war. It's only after the heroes achieve their final victory that they face their greatest challenge ever.

Generation Hope #1

Writer Kieron Gillen and artist Salvador Espin present the ongoing exploits of Hope Summers, whose return from the future triggered the rebirth of the mutant gene. Follow Hope as she travels the globe with the X-Men on a mission to save the emerging new mutants from themselves and those who would harm them.

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UNCLE SAM LEADS THE TEAM ON A QUEST
THROUGH THE HIDDEN HISTORY OF
THE UNITED STATES!
FREEDOM FIGHTERS
AN ALL-NEW, ACTION-PACKED MONTHLY SERIES
WRITTEN BY JIMMY PALMIOTTI & JUSTIN GRAY ART BY TRAVIS MOORE
COVERS BY DAVE JOHNSON VARIANT COVER BY SHANE DAVIS
SEPTEMBER 2010
dccomics.com
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hero in town, and while Damian might not want to join the team, he's more than happy to lead them! There should always be a Robin on the team, but if Damian is their only available option, maybe they'll pass on having a Boy Wonder. Watch the sparks fly in ***Teen Titans #89*** by *J.T. Krul, Nicola Scott, & Doug Hazlewood.*

Josie and the Pussycats get an invitation to join the Pets in ***Teen Titans/Little Archie #2*** by *Art Baltazar & Franco.* Will Archie's favorite band survive the experience? Find out what happens when the Dance Party at the Tiny Titans Tree House turns into a costume party!

Would you rather burn out or fade away? That's the question at the heart of ***T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agents,*** a bold new series about a group of people who, for one reason or another, are at their wits' end until they're offered a chance to become superheroes. The catch? Their powers will kill them. *Nick Spencer, Cafu, & Bit* introduce a new generation of agents for a new century, recruits brought in to take over the original agents' mantles and make some difficult choices of their own – all while dealing with global threats the rest of the DCU doesn't even know exist!

Deathstroke faces off against Batman in ***Titan #29*** by *Eric Wallace & Fabrizio Fiorentino.*

In *J. Michael Straczynski, Don Kramer, & Jay Leisten's* ***Wonder Woman #605,*** Wonder Woman continues her quest to find out exactly what happened to her current reality and who is ultimately responsible. Her quest brings her face-to-face with the first of the three most deadly gods known to man. Together, they comprise… the Morrigan!

DC's line of 96-page ***DC Comics Presents*** anthology comics continues in November with

- ***DC Comics Presents The Flash/Green Lantern/Faster Friends,*** reprinting the two-part 1997 miniseries that made a cameo appearance in ***Lost.***
- ***DC Comics Presents J.H. Williams III #1,*** featuring tales from ***Chase #s 1 & 6-8.***
- ***DC Comics Presents Batman #2,*** collecting ***Batman #s 591-594*** by *Ed Brubaker, Scott McDaniel, & Karl Story.*
- ***DC Comics Presents Superman #2,*** collecting a four-part tale of Clark's first love, Lana Lang, co-written by *Geoff Johns.*
- ***DC Comics Presents Young Justice #2,*** collecting ***Young Justice Secret Files, Young Justice: The Secret #1,*** and ***Young Justice in No Man's Land #1.***
- ***DC Comics Presents Brightest Day #2,*** collecting ***Martian Manhunter #24*** and ***Firestorm #s 11-13.***

DC collected editions (advance solicited for December and January release) include:

- ***Azrael: Angel in the Dark TP,*** collecting ***Azrael #s 1-6.***
- ***Batman: Dead to Rights TP,*** collecting ***Batman Confidential #s 22-25 & 29-30.***
- ***The Batman Chronicles Volume 10 TP,*** collecting stories from ***Detective #s 78-81, Batman #s 18-19,*** and ***World's Finest Comics #11.***
- ***Batgirl: The Greatest Stories Ever Told TP,*** collecting 160 pages of classic Batgirl tales beginning with her first appearance in ***Detective #359.***
- ***Blue Beetle: Black and Blue TP,*** collecting ***Blue Beetle #s 27-28*** and ***Booster Gold #s 21-24.***
- ***Booster Gold: The Tomorrow Memory TP,*** collecting ***Booster Gold #s 26-31.***
- ***Hitman Volume 3: Local Heroes,*** collecting ***Hitman #s 9-14.***
- ***The Justice Society of America: Axis of Evil TP,*** collecting ***Justice Society #s 34-40.***
- ***R.E.B.E.L.S.: The Son and the Stars TP,*** collecting ***R.E.B.E.L.S. #s 10-14.***
- ***Showcase Presents Our Army at War Volume 1 TP,*** collecting ultra-rare pre-Sgt-Rock war tales from ***Our Army at War #s 1-20.***
- ***Starman Omnibus Volume 6 HC,*** collecting ***Starman #s 61-81,*** the final issues of the *James Robinson* series.
- ***Super Friends: Head of the Class TP,*** collecting ***Super Friends #s 15-21.***
- ***Superman: The Last Stand of New Krypton Volume 2 HC,*** collecting ***Last Stand of New Krypton #3, Adventure #s 10 & 11, Supergirl #52, & Superman #699.***
- ***Superman/Batman: Big Noise TP,*** collecting ***Superman/Batman #s 64 & 68-71.***
- ***Tales of the Green Lantern Corps Volume 3 TP,*** collecting stories from ***Green Lantern #s 201-206.***
- ***Teen Titans: Ravager—Fresh Hell TP,*** collecting ***Faces of Evil: Deathstroke*** and ***Teen Titans #s 71-76 & 79-82.***

Coming Comics—WildStorm/DC in November

The historical fantasy/sci-fi Assassin's Creed video game from Ubisoft breaks into comics with a ***Assassin's Creed: The Fall,*** a three-issue series written and illustrated by *Karl Kerschl & Cameron Stewart.* The series follows 19th century Russian assassin Nikolai Orelov as he strives to claim an artifact of immense power from the hands of the Templars. Meanwhile, in modern times, a troubled young drifter copes with unsettling visions of a possible past life – visions that have irreversible consequences for the present.

Ian Edginton & Davide Fabbri return to Victorian England in ***Victorian Undead II: Sherlock Holmes Versus Dracula #1,*** the premiere issue of a five-part series. A year after the defeat of Professor Moriarty's revenant horde and the fire-bombing of London, restoration is well under way. Yet, from across the sea, ancient eyes cast their hungry gaze upon the still vulnerable capital… Dracula is coming! The drama starts when Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson investigate the wreck of the ship, the Demeter – its crew missing, the corpse of its Captain lashed to the ship's wheel – and soon realize this is merely the opening salvo of war from beyond the grave.

A series of grisly, animalistic murders have rocked the walled town of Gilneas. A famous detective sets out to discover the perpetrators and finds far more than he bargained for. To find the truth, he must delve through years of twisted history – both the history of his family and Gilneas itself. Follow his quest in ***World of Warcraft: Curse of the Worgen,*** a five-issue miniseries.

WildStorm pulls some gems from its vaults for ***WildStorm Presents #1,*** a 96-page comic featuring short stories by *Geoff Johns, Ed Brubaker, Brian Azzarello, Judd Winick,* and others.

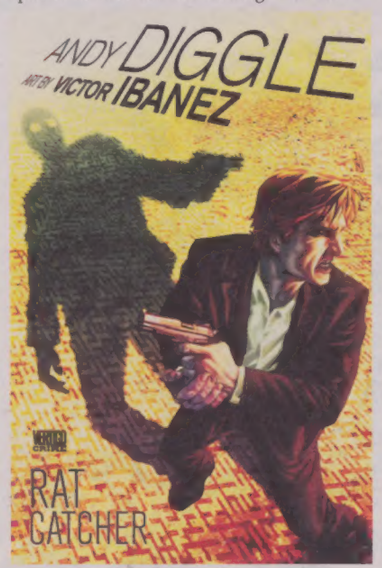
WildStorm collected volumes (advance solicited for December release) include:

- ***Planetary Book 4: Spacetime Archeology TP,*** collecting ***Planetary #s 19-27.***
- ***Robotech: Love and War Stories TP,*** collecting the 2003 six-part miniseries.

Coming Comics—Vertigo/DC in November

Madame Xanadu #29 marks the end of the series. Set in the New York City of 1966, Madame Xanadu and her new protégé, Charlotte Blackwood, ponder what the future may hold. According to The Phantom Stranger, they stand on the edge of a new age – and the coming of a familiar team of heroes…

According to underworld legend, the Rat Catcher is a peerless assassin who specializes in silencing mob snitches. There's just one problem—he doesn't exist. At least, not according to the U.S. Marshals who oversee the Witness Protection Program... But now there's a pile of dead bodies in a burning safe house outside El Paso. The Rat Catcher has finally slipped up, and a washed-up FBI agent has one last chance to hunt him down before he disappears forever. Follow the hunt in ***Rat Catcher,*** an original graphic novel by *Andy Diggle & Victor Ibanez.*



Peter Milligan & Ted McKeever's provocative ***The Extremist*** is collected in ***Vertigo Resurrected #2. The Extremist*** follows three ordinary people who succumb to the allure of a mask and a costume and all the power that comes with it, creating a shocking and controversial exploration of the nature of freedom and sexuality.

Vertigo collected editions include:

- ***Peter and Max: A Fables Novel TP,*** a softcover edition of the prose novel by *Bill Willingham* with illustrations by *Steve Leialoha.*
- ***Fables Volume 14: Witches TP,*** collecting ***Fables #s 86-93.***
- ***Saga of the Swamp Thing Book 4 HC,*** collecting ***Saga of the Swamp Thing #s 43-50*** by *Alan Moore, Stephen Bissette,* and others.
- ***Sweet Tooth Volume 2: In Captivity TP,*** collecting ***Sweet Tooth #s 6-11.***

Coming in April from DC Direct

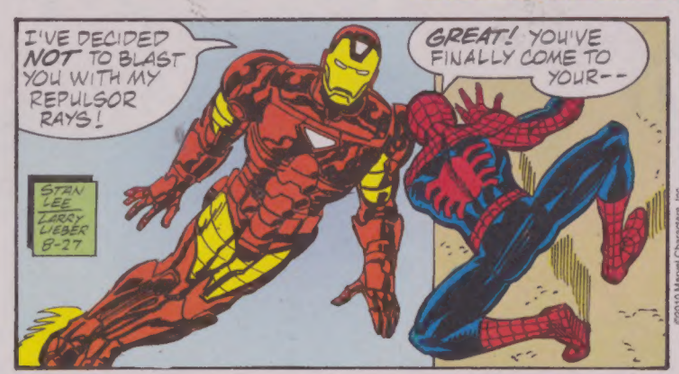
Tim Bruckner presents the latest addition to the DC Dynamics line with the ***DC Dynamics: Sinestro Statue,*** depicting Sinestro riding swirling yellow waves of fear.

Blackest Night continues in mini-bust form with the ***Heroes of the DC Universe: Blackest Night—Larfleeze the Orange Lantern Minibust.*** The sculpture features Larfleeze atop a special base that displays the spectrum of Lantern symbols.

Want your very own Power Battery Prop? Then you're the perfect candidate for the ***Blackest Night Orange Lantern 1:4 Scale Power Battery and Ring Prop Replica Set,*** the first of nine light-up rings and prop power batteries slated for 2011 release.

Martian Manhunter, Hawkman, Firestorm, and ***Mera*** are the featured players in the ***Brightest Day Series 2 Action Figure*** line. All four figures feature multiple points of articulation and include a display base.

Amanda Conner supplies the design art for the ***Women of the DC Universe Series 3 Harley Quinn Mini-Bust,*** sculpted by *Jim Maddox.* Sitting atop a defaced deck of cards, Harley's


I'VE DECIDED NOT TO BLAST YOU WITH MY REPULSOR RAYS!
GREAT! YOU'VE FINALLY COME TO YOUR--
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 8-27
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ready to bite off a slice of sweet revenge.

The Ame-Comi line expands (or should we say "contracts"?) with the release of ***Ame-Comi Heroine Mini-Figures Series 2,*** featuring 5" Ame-Comi figures of ***Donna Troy, Cheetah, & Wonder Woman.***

Adam Hughes' art is the inspiration for the ***Cover Girls of the DC Universe: Wonder Woman (Armored) Statue.***

Billy Batson is about the become a video star, thanks to the upcoming ***Superman/Shazam: Return of Black Adam*** DVD animated short—and you can commemorate that cartoon event with the ***DC Showcase Superman/Shazam: The Return of Black Adam DVD Shazam! Maquette,*** sculpted by *Derek Miller.* This hand-painted, cold-cast porcelain maquette, based on animation art, is retro-solicited for November release.

DC's ***Mass Effect Series 2 Action Figure*** series offers 6.75" articulated figures of ***Miranda, Mordin, Legion,*** and ***Garrus.***

Coming Comics—Dynamite in November

With Hughie absent, Butcher re-examines The Boys' first encounter with The Seven in ***The Boys #48*** by *Garth Ennis & Russ Braun.* But before he can figure out what went wrong, there's some disquiet in the ranks to be dealt with—not to mention the return of an old and unexpected enemy ó who finally has come into his own.

A violent storm floods the lonely countryside, and Sonja takes shelter in a cramped Inn. After a deadly altercation with the town bully, Sonja vows to keep out of the locals' power struggles. But when the dead man's brothers appear, all Hell breaks loose in ***Red Sonja: Deluge,*** a oneshot by *Dan Brereton & Chris Bolson.*

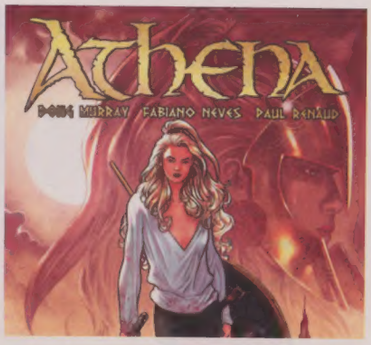
Young Vimal is an outcast, constantly bullied and brutalized by his peers. Having never met his father, he has been told by his schoolmates that he's the horrific offspring of a demon that impregnated his noble mother. When he accidentally awakens Jara, an actual demon of sinister beauty and malevolent power, from a centuries-long slumber, his life takes a turn for the evil as Jara twists Vimal's trauma into a thirst for vengeance in ***Untouchable,*** a oneshot by *Mike Carey, Samit Basu, & Ashok Bhadana.*

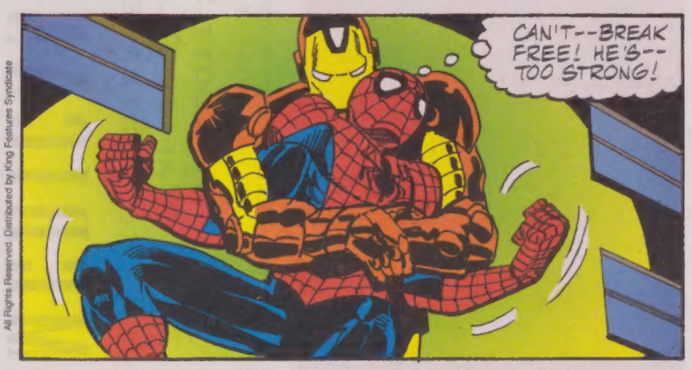
Vampirella returns in all-new adventures, courtesy of writer *Eric Tratumann* and artist *Wagner Reis.* In ***Vampirella #1,*** the seductive blood-sucker is all that stands between humanity and the end of the world as she confronts here nemesis, Vlad Dracula... but there's something even worse than him lurking in the shadows.

John Carter, prospecting for gold in the Arizona Wilderness, is about the make the journey of his life in ***Warlord of Mars #2*** by *Arvid Nelson & Steve Sadowski.*

Dynamite collected volumes (advance solicited for December release) include:

- ***Athena TP,*** collecting the series by *Doug Murray, Fabiano Nieves, & Paul Renaud.*
- ***The Boys Volume 7: The Innocents TP,*** collecting ***Boys #s 39-47,*** plus a complete cover gallery by artist *Darick Robertson.*
- ***Kevin Smith's Green Hornet Volume 1: Sins of the Father TP,*** collecting ***Kevin Smith's Green Hornet #s 1-5.***
- ***Stargate: Vala Mal Doran TP,*** collecting the four-issue miniseries along with a cover gallery.
- ***Vampirella Archives Volume 3 HC,*** collecting ***Vampirella #s 15-21,*** featuring work by *Archie Goodwin, Neal Adams, Wally Wood, Jeffrey Jones,* and others.





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